OFFICE OF THE

Legislative Fiscal Analyst

JONATHAN C. BALL DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM FOR EXECUTIVE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

FROM: Brian Wikle, Finance Officer

DATE: May 17, 2022

SUBJECT: Defense Tech Secure Facility / Catalyst Campus Funding

During the 2022 General Session the Legislature appropriated \$20 million one-time from the General Fund in FY 2023 to develop a <u>defense tech secure</u> <u>facility</u> where defense agencies, businesses, and universities can perform classified defense work (<u>H.B. 2</u>, "New Fiscal Year Supplemental Appropriations Act," Item 55). Although the funding went to the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO), it is anticipated that expenditures will be administered by Weber State University (WSU), and administratively it may be more efficient to move the funding from GOEO to WSU.

Staff from LFA, GOEO, WSU, the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, and the Division of Finance discussed option for moving the funding and concluded that funds could be moved via a pass-through agreement between GOEO and WSU. This will ensure that the university has the full amount of the appropriation in its budget to expend for the project early in FY 2023 and it will provide simple and transparent accounting entries in the State's financial system.

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